

0.001-5 parts by weight of a free radical or radiation type polymerization initiator,

b) subjecting the mixture to bulk polymerization,

*B1*  
*and*  
solution polymerization, suspension polymerization or emulsion polymerization to form a polymer gel, and

c) casting the polymer gel to shape,

whereby the article has a water content of 90-99.75% when fully hydrated.

*B2 C* ~~4~~<sup>11</sup>. (Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~<sup>11</sup> wherein the ~~olefinic acid diester~~  
~~methacrylic acid is a dimethacrylate.~~

*A* ~~9~~<sup>11</sup>. (Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~<sup>11</sup> wherein the article prepared is a contact lens.

*B3* ~~10~~<sup>18</sup>. (Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~<sup>11</sup> wherein the article prepared is a coating material.

*B3* ~~11~~<sup>18</sup>. (Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~<sup>11</sup> wherein the article prepared is a solid article suitable for further manufacturing.

*B3* ~~12~~<sup>20</sup>. (Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~<sup>11</sup> wherein the polymer is produced as a coating directly on other articles.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments and favorable re-consideration of the subject invention are respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

Claim 16 has been cancelled and claims 9, 11 and 17-20